

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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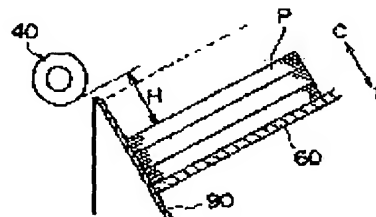
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(54) POST-PROCESSOR

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To efficiently process a sheet bundle while keeping the aligned state by starting and completing a shift action within the implementation time of a sheet discharge action when the sheet bundle aligned on an aligning tray is offset-discharged on a loading tray via the action of a shift mechanism.

SOLUTION: When a sheet bundle is to be offset-discharged, the sheet bundle on an aligning tray 20 is discharged via the drive of a discharge roll 40 at the prescribed time after the final sheet of the set is stored on an aligning tray. The shift action of the discharge roll 40 and a pinch roll by a shift mechanism is started and completed within the implementation time of a sheet discharge action. Even when the 'set alignment discharge mode' is selected, the sheet bundle aligned on the aligning tray 20 is shifted for offsetting and is discharged while being pinched between the discharge roll 40 and pinch roll. The sheet bundle is regularly discharged on a stack tray 60 with its aligned state kept undisturbed.



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The following is a partial English translation of JP H10-310320, paragraphs 0067 - 0068, and from paragraph 0073 to the second sentence of paragraph 0075, on page 9.

[0067] In the post-processor 1, the sheet (bundle) P is offset-discharged onto the stack tray 60 by means of the action of the shift mechanism.

[0068] The offset discharge is performed by shifting by means of the shift mechanism the discharge roll 40 and the pinch roll 45 to the rear side (in the direction of the arrow R) or to the front side (in the direction of the arrow F) while a sheet bundle to be offset-discharged is pinched between the discharge roll 40 and the pinch roll 45 which is pressed against the discharge roll 40 for discharging the sheet bundle.

[0073] The shift action is carried out so as to be started and completed within the implementation time of a sheet (bundle) discharge action (driving of the discharge roll 40).

[0074] As shown in FIG. 20, in the offset-discharge of a sheet bundle, the shift action of the discharge roll 40 and the pinch roll 45 by the shift mechanism is carried out so as to be started and completed within the implementation time T2 of the sheet discharge action when the sheet bundle

on the aligning tray 20 is to be discharged by activating the discharge roll 40 after the lapse of a predetermined time T1 after the final sheet of the bundle is stored on the aligning tray 20 (for example, after passage of the rear end of the sheet is detected by a sheet passage detect sensor arranged in the sheet guide path 14, and so on).

[0075] Time T3 required for the shift action to be performed is shorter than the time T2. The shift action is set so as to be started in concurrence with the sheet discharge action and completed a little earlier before termination of the sheet discharge action.